

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MILAN 00758 211756Z

72

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

EA-06 /073 W

----- 107238

R 211225Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL MILAN

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4011

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

S E C R E T MILAN 758

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, IT

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH PCI CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER

ROME FOR BEAUDRY

VIEWS OF PCI CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER RINO SERRI,
REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR VENICE ON ITALIAN ELECTIONS,
E-W BALANCE, PORTUGAL, YUGOSLAVIA, SPAIN & US.

I CALLED AGAIN ON SERRI APRIL 16 FOR TOUR D'ORISON
AND FOUND HIM QUITE CANDID, SELF CONFIDENT AND FRIENDLY
ALTHOUGH RESTRAINED AND CORRECT.

ELECTION OUTLOOK: CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAS JUST
EXAMINED THE OUTLOOK AND CONCLUDES THE DC NOT LOSE MORE THAN
ABOUT 2 PERCENTAGE POINTS NATIONALLY. LOCALLY DC LOSE ABOUT 2
POINTS AND EXPECT PSI TO BE MAJOR GAINER WHILE PRI WILL ALSO
GAIN. PLI OUTLOOK UNCERTAIN AND PSDI PROBABLY LOSE AS WILL MSI.
PCI EXPECTS GAIN MOSTLY PSIUP VOTES ALTHOUGH IT WILL LOSE
SOME ON LEFT TO EXTRA PARLAMENTARI. PCI EXPECTS HOLD THIS LOSS TO
MINOR PROPORTIONS BY STRESSING UNITY THEME. STILL, EXTREME

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MILAN 00758 211756Z

LEFT MIGHT PICK UP AS MUCH AS ONE CITY COUNCIL SEAT (OF 60).

DISMANTLEMENT OF CHRISTMAS 1974 DEAL ON PCI SUPPORT FOR DC IN CITY COUNCIL NOT UNALLOYED LOSS.
PCI NOW GOES INTO ELECTIONS WITH MERIT OF WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE AND NO BLAME FOR SHORT COMMINGS OF CITY GOVERNMENT. AND IT IS POSITIONED FOR ENTRY TO COUNCIL AFTER ELECTIONS.

SERRI SEES ONLY TWO CHOICES: PCI-PSI-PRI MAJORITY OF ABOUT 31-32 SEATS (WHICH HE OPPOSES),
OR DC-PCI-PSI MAJORITY OF CLOSER TO 50 WHICH HE FAVORS. NO OTHER ARITHMETIC POSSIBLE, HE SAYS. IN EITHER CASE, EXPECTS PCI IN VENICE CITY GOVERNMENT AFTER ELECTIONS. AS FOR SPATE OF POSTERS LOCALLY CALLING FOR OUTLAWING NEO-FASCISTS, SERRI SAID PCI TOTALLY OPPOSED TO THIS EXTREME LEFT GROUP MOVE. ONCE PROCESS OF OUTLAWING PARTIES BEGINS, NO ONE COULD SAY WHERE IT WOULD STOP AND THERE NO WAY TO MAKE IT REALLY STICK ANYWAY.

INTERNATIONAL:

VIETNAM DEBACLE IS PLUS FACTOR ELECTORALLY FOR PCI JUST AS PORTUGUAL IS MINUS. VIETNAM DIMINISHES CONFIDENCE IN NON-PC PARTIES. SERRI SAID HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED WERE US TO INTERVENE IN VIETNAM IN VIEW OF PROPORTIONS OF SETBACK. BUT, HE THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER BUT FOR THE SHOUTING. NOW THE US WOULD HAVE TO CREATE A NEW POLICY FOR SE ASIA - AND QUICKLY. I TOLD HIM THAT SEEMED TO ME PCI HAD AS MUCH TO LOSE AS US IN MAJOR US SET BACK SINCE PCI AND PCF HAD BEEN ABLE BECOME MASS PARTIES ONLY IN CLIMATE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS PERMITTED BY US DEFENSE OF W. EUROPE. EITHER SOVIET DOMINENCE OF WEST EUROPE OR PUBLIC REACTION TO SUCH A THREAT WOULD DESTROY MASS PC PARTIES. SERRI SAID HE AGREED. IN FACT BERLINGUERS TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA WAS A MARK OF THE PCI CONCERN THAT YUGOSLAVIA SHOULD REMAIN INDEPENDENT OF THE USSR POST TITO. PCI WAS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO EQUILIBRIUM CONCEPT. RECENT NATIONAL CONGRESS HAD CONFIRMED BERLINGUER POSITION OF NO UNILATERAL ITALIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO AS ANY SUCH MOVE WOULD JEOPARDIZE EXISTING EAST-WEST BALANCE WHICH WAS SINE QUO NOW FOR DETENTE.

IN PORTUGUAL, PCI OPPOSED EFFORT LIMIT DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. FROM CONTACT WITH PARTY COMRADES, EXPECT PC PORTUGUAL TO GET ABOUT 15 0/0 OF VOTE AND REMAIN ABOUT THIS LEVEL OF INFLUENCE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MILAN 00758 211756Z

THAT ASSUMED THAT ARMY DID NOT STAGE COUNTER COUP SINCE IT HAD REAL MONOPOLY OF POWER AND THAT PORTUGUESE DID NOT PUSH ANTI NATO POSITION WHICH WOULD PRECIPITATE US INTERVENTION. SERRI SAID US SHOULD RE-EXAMINE ITS NEGATIVE POLICY TOWARD PC. WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE PC AS STABILIZING FACTOR. THIS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT WITH REGARD TO SPAIN. TIME RAPIDLY APPROACHING WHEN POWER THERE WILL BE UP FOR GRABS AND PCS WILL BE MAJOR FORCE. PCI VERY CLOSE TO SPANISH PARTY WITH WHICH IT IN CLOSEST AGREEMENT

OF ANY OTHER COMMUNIST PARTY ABOUT PROPER POLICY. FINA

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, MEETINGS, ELECTION FORECASTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MILAN00758
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750139-0824
From: MILAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750432/aaaabeeq.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISCUSSION WITH PCI CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER ROME FOR BEAUDRY
TAGS: PINS, IT, PCI
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006